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## Changes at CIA detailed in former director's talk

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Stansfield Turner, CIA director under President Carter, said Tuesday intelligence gathering has undergone "revolutions" in accountability and technology during the last decade.

Turner was the first speaker in this year's Columbus Distinguished Visitors Series. He told a group of about 150 Columbus area residents at Columbus East High School Tuesday night reports critical of the CIA in the 1970s caused the agency to abandon covert operations and caused Congress to become a watchdog for the agency.

Turner took the helm of the agency in 1979 and found the agency had dropped all covert activities. "The CIA was hunkering down. They laid low."

Executive orders established two congressional committees to oversee the CIA and its covert activities. Turner explained this was a drastic change compared to intelligence practices from after World War II to the mid and late 70s.

"You can't have good intelligence without having good accountability." He said that by the end of 1979 he had proven to the intelligence community the CIA could operate with the oversight committees.

Another revolution in intelligence over the 30-year period was in the area of technology.

Turner said CIA agents gathered all the intelligence information in the past, but over the years, satellites and other listening equipment has reduced the risk to human

life involved in intelligence gathering.

"The rules of intelligence have been altered in the last decade because of a revolution in technology. There are lots of things satellites can't see and electronic systems cannot hear." Turner said the electronic equipment can't pick up the information unless someone knows where to point it and what to listen for.

Turner said the human agents exist now to verify information gathered by the electronic systems and to probe beyond information already available.

Most people have the idea CIA agents are James Bond-types, Turner said, but that isn't true. He said technology is playing a greater role in getting the information, but he joked, "I've never been trapped in a Swiss chalet with a beautiful blonde."